Judicial Reforms

2556. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce certain reforms in the judicial system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFIARS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). A number of reform recommendation are under consideration of various Departments of the Government which aim at decentralisation of system of administration of justice, reforms of procedural laws, reduction/avoidance of litigation, etc. These include recommendations regarding Tax Courts, Forum for National Uniformity in Labour Adjudication, Urban Litigation-Mediation as Alternative to Adjudication, Benami Transactions, etc. Besides, a number of procedural and jurisdictional reforms recommended by Malimath Committee have been commended for suitable adoption to the High Courts/ State Governments.

Establishment of Rural Bank of India

2557. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to merge all Regional Rural Banks into a consolidated Rural Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Each Regional Rural Bank is a separate legal entity under the Regional Rural Banks' Act, 1976 and operates within the specified local limits. As per extant policy, the separate identity and character of such banks is to be maintained.

[*Translation*]

Branches of Nationalised Banks in Parbhani in Maharashtra

2558. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the nationalised banks functioning in Parbhani district of Maharashtra at present and their locations;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued any licences to nationalised banks to open new branches in backward rural areas of Maharashtra this year;

(c) if so, the names of the places where new bank branches are proposed to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) 48 branches of nationalised banks are functioning in Parbhani District of Maharashtra. Their locations are given below:-

S.No.	Name of Centre	No. of branches
1.	Akhada Balapur	1
2.	Aundha Naganath	1
3.	Basulgaon	1
4.	Basamba	1
5.	Basmath	2
6.	Bori	1
7.	Daithana	1
8.	Deogaon	1
9.	Deulgaon Gath	1
10.	Dongarkada	1
11.	Gangakhed	2
12.	Goregaon	1
13.	Hindgoli	4
14.	Isad	1
15.	Jamb	1
16.	Jawala Bazar	1
17.	Jinture	2
18.	Kalamnuri	1
19.	Manwath	1
20.	Palam	1
21.	Parbhani	10
22.	Pathri	3
23.	Purna	2
24.	Sallu	3
25.	Sakhara	1
26.	Sonpeth	1
27.	Takli Kumbhkarna	1
28.	Zari	1
	Total	48

(b) to (d). Under the extant policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for opening of branches in rural areas, the list of identified centres with necessary particulars in each district has to be given to the lead bank of that district. The Lead Bank after consolidating the lists received from all banks submits it to the District Collector for recommendations and onward transmission to RBI through the concerned State Government. Under the Branch Licensing Policy (1990-95), opening of branches of Public Sector Banks is a continuous process and hence it is not possible to project the number of branches that will be opened this year in the backward rural areas of Maharashtra.

Pherwani Committee Report on New Financial Instruments

2559. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pherwani Committee constituted to formulate the guidelines for new financial instruments such as non-voting share, zero coupon bonds and warrents, has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and